

Ticket to Work Evaluation



The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act of 1999, P.L. 106-170, requires the Commissioner of Social Security to provide for independent evaluations to assess the effectiveness of the Ticket to Work program, and to submit reports to Congress with recommendations for a method or methods to adjust payment rates to ensure adequate incentives for the provision of services by employment networks.

The law requires that SSA provide reports on the evaluation to Congress in 2004, 2005, and 2007. In May 2003, SSA awarded two 5-year contracts to Mathematica Policy Research to conduct the evaluation of the Ticket to Work program. The first contract focuses on data development, qualitative data collection, and implementation of the comprehensive evaluation analyses. The second contract will implement a survey of beneficiaries. The project's first evaluation report has been completed and sent to Congress. The survey began in February 2004 and will be repeated annually through 2007.

How does it work?

The evaluation project will be conducted to assess the cost and effectiveness of the Ticket initiative. It includes four components: a process evaluation, a participation analysis, an impact/outcome analysis, and an adequacy of incentives analysis. The evaluation was designed in consultation with experts in the fields of disability,

vocational rehabilitation, and program evaluation and with potential participants. It will examine the total and net cost of the program, the individual and service provision characteristics affecting return-to-work, the employment outcomes for participants, the characteristics of service providers and provider networks, the appeal of the program among the eligible population, and the satisfaction of participants with the program in general.

SSA's Expectations

The evaluation will provide feedback to policy makers through annual reports detailing data collected and findings and recommendations for program modifications.

For More Information

If you have questions about the Ticket to Work Evaluation, you can write to:

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Social Security Administration
Office of Program Development & Research
June 2005 (Recycle prior editions)